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Oversight Hearing to Assess EPA's Efforts to Reduce Mercury Pollution from Dental Sources

Washington D.C. (May 18, 2010) – Chairman Dennis Kucinich (D-OH) today announced a Domestic Policy Subcommittee hearing entitled “Assessing EPA's Efforts to Measure and Reduce Mercury Pollution from Dentist Offices.” The hearing will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2010 in room 2154 Rayburn House Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to examine actions undertaken by EPA and other stakeholders to improve measurement of and limit mercury pollution from dental sources. Mercury contained in the existing dental fillings of Americans compromises over half of all mercury in use today, amounting to over 1000 tons. Dental offices are the third largest user of mercury, after wiring device/switch makers and manufacturers of measuring and control instruments. Dental amalgam is a significant source of mercury waste in the environment. This is the Subcommittee's third hearing on this topic. Previous hearings were held on [November 14, 2007](#) and [July 8, 2008](#).

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